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Official paper of Clatsop county and the City of Astoria.

WEATHER.

Oregon and Washington—
Showers.

UP TO THE PATRON.

There is a disposition to blame the lessee and manager of a theater if a poor troupe puts on a poor show. This is wrong. The manager, like the hotel proprietor, must rent his house to the troupe that applies for its use; he cannot go into the qualities and quantities of excellence, with which the company may or may not be equipped; he is in a quasi-public line of business that precludes any exactions on his part save that the moral tone of the show shall be up to the legal and social standards of his city and of good society generally.

If the patron is disappointed, it is the patron's fault. The advertising of the show indicates the quality of the people and their offering in the way of entertainment; this is done by the showmen themselves and not by the manager unless he has made a special effort to get a certain play and its players to his house, (and it is not likely he will make any extraordinary efforts to secure a snide outfit). Read the advertising closely, see what the troupe has to say for itself, what others say about it, and if it fails to advertise clearly and frequently and boldly, stay away from it. The patron must use discrimination in the matter; it is his dollar that is at stake the manager is only too eager to bring the finest plays and performers to his theatre this he is not always able to do; his house is for rent, and it goes to the people who pay him the required rental and observe the customary rules of decency and good order. There is nothing else for him to do. The patron is the arbiter in all things theatrical. It is his patronage that keeps both the good and the bad shows going. It is strictly up to him; and while he is discriminating, it were well not to confound the relative values which he must pay for each, the good and the bad.

IT'S KNAPPTON NOW.

Some little time ago, the dream-city of the northshore was St. James. Where it was located was as much a myth as the rest of the yarn. Now it is Knapperton. We all know where Knapperton is and all about its relative values as an embryo seaport. There are still McGowan's, Ilwaco and North Head to hear from in relation to Mr. Hill's phantom city at the mouth of the Columbia river. But when the next Hill-Harriman love-feast shall have transpired, we are prone to believe the ghost-town will be laid, the dream-harbor vanished, the spirit-venture evaporated into thin air. Our credulity has been strained until it will take the solemn and public assurance of James J. Hill himself to bring us to any conviction in this matter, and then we shall claim the right to reserve a few guesses of our own.

SALVAGE AND ROBBERY.

There is a radical difference between entering upon a wrecked ship with a view to salvaging what may be saved and restoring it to her owners upon the legal basis of remuneration, and visiting the ship with deliberate purpose to steal, and stealing all that may be carried away. It is the difference between honesty and dishonesty. The man who cannot distinguish between these broad elements of action had best stay away from all manner of temptation. He is in a bad way, and so is the community that counts his citizenship. Enlightenment for such minds is not to be had short of the penitentiary.

ENGLISH DISARMAMENT.

It sounds strangely to hear of Britain, who "rules the waves," economizing on the means whereby she rules. The retirement of a score of efficient warships, of the Majestic, the Formidable and Royal Sovereign class, from the Channel, Atlantic and Mediterranean fleets, shows one of two things—either that Great Britain feels her interests at distant points are comparatively safe, or that it is deemed advisable to cut expenses. This tendency, by the way, has been observable since the new ministry's advent. The retired ships will be placed on the home reserve with a mere nucleus of crews, while the entire Royal Sovereign class, eight fine vessels, will be placed in reserve without any crews whatever, and four armored cruisers will be paid off, and put "out of commission." This is the nearest approach to disarmament reached by any of the great powers.—Brooklyn Union.

EDITORIAL SALAD.

The Missouri mule went through the recent Cuban insurrection without a scratch. He was not even startled.

The shortest cut to Missouri river improvements: Elect sixteen Republican congressmen, a full delegation, from Missouri.

In administering the affairs of Russia Premier Stolypin is said to be favoring the Octoberists, probably from the theory that the czar needs prompt relief.

The Western clergyman who invented a language without any unpleasant words in it right at the beginning of a campaign is probably not working overtime filling orders.

In the last six months 682,500 immigrants have arrived in this country, a number never before reached in a like period. If this stream is to continue the next census will go far beyond the former estimate.

Most of the public-spirited citizens of Cuba express a willingness to have the island taken over by Uncle Sam. They want better service in the various governmental departments than they can get under Cuban rule.

New Zealand seems a long way off, but in nine years it has increased its purchases in the United States from \$3,500,000 to \$10,600,000. American farmers and manufacturers are climbing up fast in foreign estimation.

A Londoner who drops a penny in the slot gets 28 cubic feet of gas for his money (2 cents, American measure), which is about 72 cents per 1,000 feet. The largest consumers in the United States are not allowed as low a rate.

College training cannot be detrimental to common sense, after all, when the president of Princeton positively refuses the office of Senator from New Jersey on the ground that nobody has asked him to take it.

The Prohibitionists, who refused to endorse the Democratic and anti-machine Republican candidate in Pennsylvania, have endorsed the Democratic and Hearst candidate in Massachusetts. The Prohibitionists are consistent in their desire to play long shots.

Now they are disciplining under the anti-hazing law an Annapolis cadet who gave another a nickname. When the reformers get through Annapolis will make a fine co-educational school, provided some inducements are offered to men to go there.

In commenting on Boston's proposed return to New Orleans of the rebel flag taken from the staff of the city hall by Gen. Butler, while he was in command of that city during the Civil War, the "Providence Journal" cannot refrain from a mean allusion to the old scandal of the "silver spoons." If New Orleans shows no better disposition toward Boston now than she did then, the "gracious act," as the "P. J." calls it, will hardly be graciously interpreted.

A South American fossil scientist is convinced that South America, South Africa, southern India, Australia and the Antarctic lands were once joined together in an ancient continent. It is lucky that real estate titles stop short of the petrified records.

In the last off-year election in Missouri, the Republican vote was 87,000 less than in the presidential contest two years before. If there had been no decline the Republican majority in the state would have been over 40,000. The Republican who turns up missing on election day builds worse than he knows.

Nathan Strauss, who distributes daily 10,000 bottles of pasteurized milk in New York city, declares that "75 per cent of the milk brought to New York should be dumped in the gutter." St. Louis would be interested to know if the milk supply there, on which the price has just been advanced, is the pure stuff, and steadily maintained at that standard. Paying a higher price for an adulteration would be tough.

The Jew Is Not a Natural Barterer

By OSCAR S. STRAUS, Twice Minister to Turkey



INSTEAD of the Jew being a natural barterer, he is the most spiritual man alive. He has been hounded by the ages, robbed and massacred, but he yields neither his traditions nor HIS IDEALS. Had he been materialistic he would have sold out long ago and BOUGHT PEACE. If he would join the Greek church he would be safe in Russia. Rather than do that he will walk into the jaws of hell.

The Jew, denied his civil rights, despoiled of his property, scourged and murdered, has only been made tougher and longer lived. His enemies have given him strength and TRAINED HIM MOST ADMIRABLY for the battle of life, no matter in what part of the world fortune may lead him.

Years ago Americans did the rough and heavy work of the nation. Then came the Irish, and the Americans MOVED UP. By and by the Italians swarmed in, and the Irish graduated from the trenches. When Broadway was much shorter than it is now ALL OF THE NAMES on the signs were American. But those old time merchants became opulent, they no longer desired to be small shopkeepers, and so they went into the banks and manufactories. Now the Jews have their stores.

In a generation the signs which hang and swing today in Broadway will be down and others will be up. Perhaps the names will be Italian. No race goes back in this country, but each, being prudent, industrious and ambitious, goes onward TO BETTER CONDITIONS.

I have spoken of the spirituality of the Jew, a characteristic for which, in my opinion, he is particularly distinguished over some other races, but generally he is like the rest of mankind. I believe, however, that he is INTENSELY PATRIOTIC, and I am proud of the part he has taken in the development of this country. I think the Jews to be equal in patriotism to any class of Americans.

You hear that the Jewish mind is exceptionally ACUTE. That is an exaggeration. All of us want the things which are withheld.

THE JEW, DEPRIVED OF AN EDUCATION IN VARIOUS PARTS OF EUROPE, COMES HERE AND, FINDING FREE SCHOOLS, SATISFIES THE HUNGER FROM WHICH HIS MIND AND HEART HAVE LANGUISHED. HIS INTELLECT IS THE AVERAGE AND NO MORE.

"The World Will End In 1982"

By EDMUND SCRIBNER STEVENS, Ph. D., of Washington

THE earth is out of her place, or upright position. It is gradually resuming it. Whenever there is an accelerated or faster motion then in that period EARTHQUAKES OCCUR. We are now in one of those periods, from Mont Pelee, 1900 to 1915; again, from 1925 to 1946½; again, from 1965 to 2000 A. D.

IN 1982 THE EARTHQUAKE IS OF SUCH EXTENT THAT ALL THE CITIES OF ALL THE NATIONS FALL.

From 2035 to 3144 A. D. the earth is in continual perturbation, and in the latter year settles to its upright position. This brings in the new heaven and NEW EARTH.

A Poem for Today

The Sun Is Warm, the Sky Is Clear

By Percy Bysshe Shelley



ALTHOUGH Shelley's life, from Aug. 4, 1792, to July 8, 1822, was filled with turmoil, he left behind him an imperishable monument in his beautiful verses. Chief among these are "Queen Mab," "Adonais," "Alastor," "Prometheus Unbound," etc. Shelley was educated at Eton and Cambridge. He was expelled from the latter for his atheistical views. He was drowned in the bay of Spezia, Italy, and his body was consumed on a funeral pyre in the presence of Lord Byron and Leigh Hunt, his intimate friends. The following stanzas, written near Naples, reflect a mood in the poet's own life.



THE sun is warm, the sky is clear,
The waves are dancing fast and bright,
Blue isles and snowy mountains wear
The purple noon's transparent light.
The breath of the moist air is light
Around its unexpanded buds.
Like many a voice of one delight—
The winds', the birds', the ocean floods'—
The city's voice itself is soft like solitude's.

I see the deep's untrampled floor
With green and purple seaweed strown;
I see the waves upon the shore
Like light dissolved in star showers thrown;
I sit upon the sands alone;
The lightning of the noontide ocean
Is flashing round me, and a tone
Arises from its measured motion—
How sweet did any heart now share in my emotion!

Alas, I have nor hope nor health,
Nor peace within nor calm around,
Nor that content surpassing wealth
The sage in meditation found
And walked with inward glory crowned,
Nor fame, nor power, nor love, nor leisure!
Others I see whom these surround;
Smiling they live and call life pleasure,
To me that cup has been dealt in another measure

Yet now despair itself is mild
Even as the winds and waters are,
I could lie down like a tired child
And weep away the life of care
Which I have borne and yet must bear
Till death like sleep might steal on me
And I might feel in the warm air
My cheek grow cold and bear the sea
Breathe o'er my dying brain its last monotony.



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